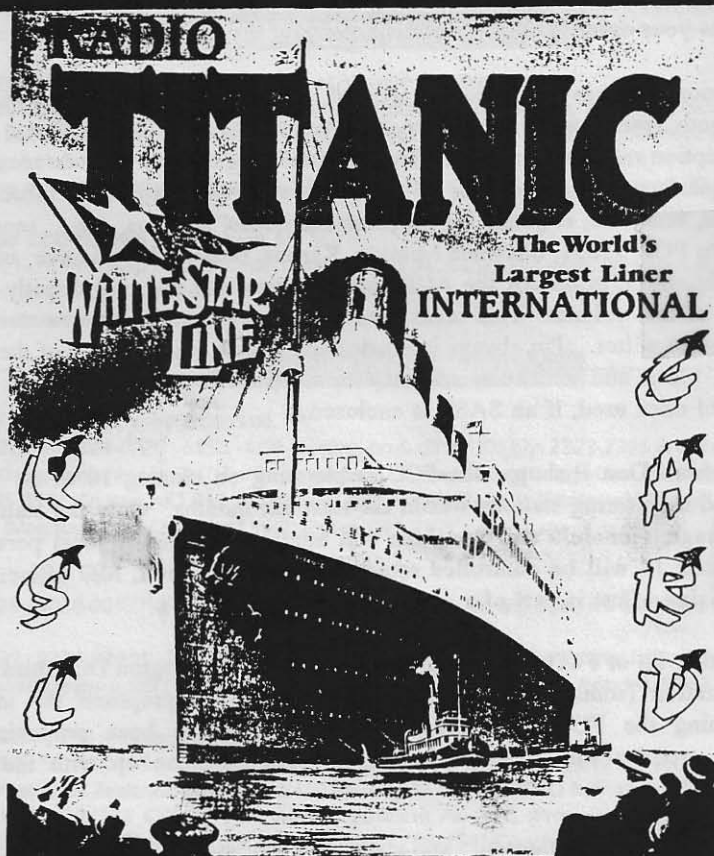


June 1995

The

ACE



GERMANY'S LONGEST SERVING
FREE RADIO STATION
1975 • 20TH ANNIVERSARY • 1995

The President's Page

by Kirk Baxter

As I write this column, it is June 15th. The June ACE is going to the printer tomorrow, and the main question that everyone has been asking is, "Where is the ACE?"

Unfortunately, the ACE has run into a publishing problem this month. Rob Keeney has told me that he no longer has time for the publishing duties, and I picked up the pieces of the bulletin tonight and I am printing the June and July issues. Rob has been very busy with family activities, and had less time for publishing, and consequently, the June issues fell two weeks behind schedule. I'm sure that everyone would like to thank Rob for the years of service that he provided as Publisher. I'm sure that Rob will continue to remain active in the club and the hobby in general. Rob produced a nice questionnaire for the membership, which I hope to publish in the next few months so that you can express your opinion on the various aspects of your club bulletin.

Next month I'll have an announcement of our new publisher, and we will have a smooth transition to them for the August issue. This will not affect subscription rates, or mailing addresses which you currently use to reach club Headquarters. Remember, for all your correspondence regarding subscription matters, renewals, requests for replacement issues, samples, etc., send your letter to POB 11201, Shawnee Mission, Kansas, 66207. If you have material for publication in one of the ACE columns, send the material directly to the Editor of that column. This saves time and money, avoiding me re-mailing to the correct editor. I'm always interested in artwork for the cover of the ACE. Good black and white copies of QSLs work well. I'll be happy to return material once used, if an SASE is enclosed.

News from Don Bishop: the FCC is planning on closing 10 of its 13 HF manned monitoring stations within the next six months. Only the stations in Anchorage, Honolulu and San Juan will continue to employ local personnel. The other 10 will be controlled remotely from the Laurel, MD office. This downsizing effort is part of a cost savings initiative.

In another bit of FCC news from Ullis Fleming, a Washington DC "think tank" organization (sounds like an oxymoron to me) has proposed the idea of abolishing the FCC. Sounds like something we've been proposing for years.....wonder why it someone else so long to come up with the same idea?????

See you next month for July. Have a Happy 4th, and keep those radios on!!

DIALOGS

| | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | | |

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When someone you know passes away, it's hard not to ask "What if?" Especially when your friend leaves at a young age. Sadly, everyone at The ACE is asking that about longtime ACE member and supporter, Pirate Mike, of R/Albatross Intl, whose life came to an end last month after a long illness. Mike Goetsch will always be remembered, even by the many people, including this editor, who had never met him. Through his pioneering radio projects, the most unforgettable of which when he rented a booth at the final ANARC convention for his R Audubon, he has left a legacy for the free radio community to learn and grow from. Sadly with him gone, an unfillable void remains. Yet perhaps that is his ultimate victory: He did what nobody else could do. We will miss him terribly.

INTERNATIONAL - DX

RADIO PIRANA - Blue Ridge Summit, PA or Wuppertal, Germany

Apr 30 - 1914-2102* - 13950.01 - LSB - Anncr Jorge w/ mx "Blue Moon," & the Andrews Sisters. Greetings to DXers incl J. Berg. DX segment incl info de Live Wire R. Ment plans to move to S Am & b'casting. (Lobdell, MA 141/242 Trx Stephens tlp) (Rausch, NJ 333) (Filipkowski, RI 1-242 First time for me, trx to tips de Stephens & Lobdell) (Grace, DC 131 as Tent.) (Coatsworth, ON 111)

VOICE OF SCOTLAND - Providence, RI

May 21 - *0358-0450* - 6273v - AM - Tuned up until 0400 then into pgm. Rock mx & accented om. Trem het & ARO ORM. Carrier drifting down to 6272.79 by s/off. (Grace, DC 121 got ID at 46) See Shortly Noted

NORTH AMERICA - SHORTWAVE

THE MAN RADIO - Blue Ridge Summit, PA

Apr 22-23 - 2324-0020 - 6955 - USB - Testing on & off w/ IDs b/n 2323-2326 & 0016-0020 "from a hilltop somewhere in OH." T-shirt promo for \$12, & whistling "Bridge Over the River Kwai." (Keeney, KS 343) (Cruzan, MO 211 as unid w/ QSB) (Hassig, IL 222) (Filipkowski, RI 444) (Suter, VA 322) (Masyga, MN 222 also as Unid) (Zeller, OH 232)

KDED - Wellsville, NY

Apr 29 - 0038-0047* - 6955 - USB - No ID but presumed de Gtfl Dead mx & NY add. (Suter, VA 322)

Apr 29 - 0234-0244* - 7465 - USB - Pgm of Dead mx & promise by DJ that he'll refund your \$\$ if you didn't enjoy a Gtfl Dead concert. Just send him the ticket stub! (Lobdell, MA 232)

KIWI - POBox 3103; Napier, Onekawa; New Zealand

Apr 30 - *0106-0145* - 6956.00 - USB - Lots of R&B w/ IDs "The Rock of the South Pacific" "Nuclear Free New Zealand" ACE ads, & UAWR relay ID at s/off. QSO foll. (Rausch, NJ 444) (Filipkowski, RI 232/333 ORM de Vox America) (Williams, AL 444) (Provance, OH) (Grace, DC 333) (Hassig, IL 333 ORM de weak Vox America) (Folk, KY 58/454) (Coatsworth, ON 151) (Masyga, MN 212)

KXXX - QSL Information Unknown

Apr 24 - *0100-0132* - 6955.73 - USB - S/on w/ maniacal laughing IS loop. ID "Extreme Pirate Radio!" "KXXX transmits w/ an extraordinary amt of power to express personal liberty & free radio." Into 80's glamour rock & parody ads. Reverend X & Major Spook gave moment of silence for OK City bomb victims & advocate executing bombers. Then the \$25K question: Name 4 pirates. B52 music then long s/off w/ promise to return. Ended w/ IS. (Folk, KY PSE QSL) (Grace, DC 333 PSE QSL) (Wolfish, ON Poor Sig. PSE QSL) (Zeller, OH 343) (Lobdell, MA 322) (Filipkowski, RI 343 PSE QSL) (Coatsworth, ON 433 PSE QSL)

NORTH AMERICAN PIRATE RELAY SERVICE - Wellsville, NY

Apr 22 - 2210-2217* - 6955 - LSB - Dick Pistek w/ test xmsn. Mx de Sheryl Crow & T-shirt promo. (Filipkowski, RI 344)

Apr 22 - 2308-2323 - 6955 - LSB - Test xmsn. (Hassig, IL 333) (Coatsworth, ON 434) (Zeller, OH 222 ORN de He Man R)

Apr 23 - 0007-0008* - 6955 - LSB - Rpt test xmsn. (Filipkowski, RI 444 Welcome back!) (Suter, VA 333)

Apr 23 - 0215-0219* - 6955 - LSB - Poss rpt of earlier test xmsn. Def. Dick Pistek, despite his prior permanent retirement. (Suter, VA) (Zeller, OH 353)

May 20 - 2054-2257* - 6954.95 - AM - On & off for 5 min before each hour w/ one or two tunes & NAPRS mx ID promo. (Grace, DC S9/322 Heavy QRN)

May 21 - 2250-2317* - 6954.9v - AM - Tent. log w/ mainly dead air over carrier. Occasional mx & ment Wellsville add. Vx sounded like Dick Pistek. (Grace, DC 121)

NORTH JERSEY COAST RADIO - Merlin, ON

Apr 29 - 1710-1736* - 7413.54 - AM - Live pgm de Asbury Park in NJ w/ plugs of corporate sponsors incl Snapple and ment. Wawa stores. Lots of spacey mx at end. (Grace, DC +20/433)

OMEGA RADIO - Blue Ridge Summit, PA

May 14 - 0105-0214* - 6955 - AM - Dick Tator returns w/ pgm of mx featuring Christian rock & rap groups appearing at recent festival, singing cat tune, & ad for 'Spatula City.' S/off w/ "Take care & God bless." (Zeller, OH 343 in car w/ DC-777 & home w/ HF-1000) (Filipkowski, RI 433) (Suter, VA 433) (Bergman, WI 332 Weak w/ T-storm QRN) (Lobdell, MA 232) (Wolfish, ON Poor Sig. as unid. PSE QSL) (Grace, DC +35/434)

OUTLAW RADIO - Providence, RI

Apr 29 - 2249-2329* - 6955.00 - USB - Yl & om w/ IDs b/n guitar & Psychedelic rock incl The Doors, Sabbath, Hendrix & Zep. "B'cstng live de FCC HQ in Washington, DC." Air raid siren at s/on & s/off. Low mod on annrcs, but good mx audio. (Grace, DC 333) (Rausch, NJ 444) (Williams, AL 444) (Filipkowski, RI 232 Good pgml) (Provance, OH) (Lobdell, MA 131) (Folk, KY S8/454) (Coatsworth, ON 152) (Hassig, IL 333) (Masyga, MN 222) The FCC HQ is closed at that hour, so they must have been broadcasting across the street from either McDonald's or Roy Roger's, hil NG

RADIO AZTECA - Wellsville, NY

Apr 29 - *2137-2216* - 6954.62v - AM - Bram Stoker w/ his usual G. Hauser / bodily function obsession. "Your station for all that's gross but tasteful" Mailbag seg w/ rpts de Masyga, Rose, Grote, Stacey, Coatsworth & Folk. Top 10 Unexplained DX Mysteries' like why Nibi Nibi went off SW, & Top 10 Signs You Purchased a Cheap Radio.' 'Ask Dr. Radio' foll by some outtakes de pgm 14. Good sound byte mix. (Rausch, NJ 444) (Filipkowski, RI 444) (Grace, DC +20/434 Fun guy, but stay away from my girlfriend!!!) (Masyga, MN 111)

RADIO MARABU - Wellsville, NY or Merlin, ON

Apr 29 - 2120-2136* - 6957.2 - AM - Om w/ GG rock, ad de Dutch heavy metal magazine, phone # to call & freq. IDs. (Rausch, NJ 444) (Filipkowski, RI 444) (Lobdell, MA 343)

VOX AMERICA - POBox 3913; Schenectady, NY 12303

Apr 23 - 0020-0051* - 7413.6 - AM - Rpt Apr 20 pgm. Parody ads, Andy Rooney skit & Zappa mx. Requested \$3 rp for 8x10 glossy QSLs. (Lobdell, MA 322) (Zeller, OH 343+) (Filipkowski, RI 434 Nice AM sig & audio!) (Arthur, NY 322 Slop ORN) (Suter, VA 422 I won't be QSLing)

Apr 29 - 2230-2249* - 7405.00 - AM - Om w/ harmonizer deepening vx tking abt hanging out w/ yl drinking beer, Andy Looney on OK City bombing. Outtakes de Bo Jackson's UNICEF PSA attempt. ID as "The Real Voice of America" w/ 100w. Jus' DisGustin w/ 'Cajun Cookin.' Ment new J.Reno conspiracy w/ her being arrested in '83 on child molestation charges by a state trooper who has since died from 3 bullets to the head. S/off w/ Zep's "Black Mtn Side." (Rausch, NJ 444 F/out by 2242) (Grace, DC +15/433) (Filipkowski, RI 444 F/out by 2244)

Apr 30 - *0031-0104* - 6956.98 - AM - S/on w/ "Black Mtn Side" & into pgm rpt. (Williams, AL 243) (Grace, DC +35/544) (Rausch, NJ 555) (Filipkowski, RI 444 F/out by 0040) (Hassig, IL 222 Heavy QRN PSE QSL) (Rose, VA 323) (Zeller, OH) (Provance, OH) (Lobdell, MA Heavy OSB) (Folk, KY S8/454) (Coatsworth, ON 333) (Spremo, NY 454 Heavy QRN) (Masyga, MN 121) (Zeller, OH 343 in car w/ DC-777 returning from Dayton)

Apr 30 - 0125-0148 - 6957 - AM - Poss rpt pgm w/ political content. (Zeller, OH 322+) (Filipkowski, RI 432 as unid PSE QSL) ID trx G. Zeller

WLIS - Blue Ridge Summit, PA

Apr 23 - 2312-2327* - 6956 - AM - Mx incl "When I'm 64." ID ment. Michael Bolton & said hi to lan as usual. (Keeney, KS 242 T-storm QRN) (Coatsworth, ON 322)

May 7 - 2213-2230* - 6954.47 - AM - Top 10 IS countdown incl R Azteca and R Prague. R Botswana's famous barnyard IS took the first spot. NAPRS ID and add at end. (Wolfish, ON Good sig) (Grace, DC +30/322 Trem OSB & QRN, but fun show!)

WRDO Relay - QSL Information Unknown

May 13 - 2136-2147* - 6955 - LSB - Pgm of rock oldies in "The New Now 30 Countdown" format. Om ancw was Jay Jeffrey. Sev. call letter IDs taped, but all read very fast by om. I'm 90% it was "WRDO," listed as 96.9 FM in Fitzgerald, GA w/ oldies format. No ID de relaying strn, but poss. WKIK given geography. (Zeller, OH 444)

WREC - Blue Ridge Summit, PA or Wellsville, NY

Apr 29/30 - *2337-0030* - 6956.74 - AM - 2nd Anniv Celebr B'cast w/ unid host & heavy reverb delay. ID: "Radio Free East Coast." Parody ads incl 'Survival Golf,' 'Motel Strict' for naughty kids, 'ToeMaster 2000,' 'Those Sucky Sounds of the 70s,' and excerpts de Jerky Boys' calls mixed b/n rock mx. (Rausch, NJ 555 BIG SIG!!!) (Bergman, WI 333 QRN) (Grace, DC +30/544) (Filipkowski, RI 444) (Zeller, OH 343 on Philips DC-777 going home from Dayton) (Hassig, IL 111 Tough copy) (Rose, VA 222 OSB) (Lobdell, MA 454) (Suter, VA 422) (Folk, KY S3/252) (Provance, OH) (Spremo, NY 454 Very Funny Stuff) (Coatsworth, ON 333)

May 14 - *0026-0317* - 6955.00 - LSB - 2nd Anniv Celebr rpt. (Zeller, OH 343) (Wolfish, ON Good Sig) (Filipkowski, RI 232) (Suter, VA 322) (Bergman, WI 445 Exc sig! My Best recpt of this!) (Grace, DC +15/322 OSB) (Doehner, TX as unid)

UNIDENTIFIED

Apr 29 - 0021-0047* - 6955 - USB - Unid mx & om w/ Wellsville, NY add. (Filipkowski, RI 232 PSE ID & QSL)

May 13 - 1455 - 6955 - USB - Vy weak vx, a total unid. (Williams, AL PSE QSL)

May 13 - 0220-0223* - 6955 - USB - Test tones varying 2 to 10 seconds. (Williams, AL)

May 14 - 0319-0338 - 6954.4 - AM - Unid mx & Harry Chapin song, yl moaning, om talk. Ment. R Free Euphoria, but not an ID. Om sounded like Capt. Ganja de High Times R. (Filipkowski, RI 333 PSE ID & QSL) (Lobdell, MA 211 deep MUF fade) (Bergman, WI 332 PSE ID & QSL) Poss **High Times R** trx F. Bergman

May 14 - 2205-2207* - 6968 - USB - QSO b/n 2 oms. Wonder if KDED? (Williams, AL PSE QSL)

May 15 - 0455-0500 - 7435 - SSB - Om QRMing WWCR during R Newyork Int'l's First pgm. Attacked RNI, calling it boring and saying, "Get the F@#% outta here. Send money? Yeah, right! Bunch of BIG BOP LOSERS!" (Redford, BC) (Folk, KY) You can't please everybody! NG
 May 20 - 0410-0420* - 7445 - USB - Sounded like Pirate Pete of WRNK. Heard Wellsville add, but Over Horizon Radar QRMed ID. (Williams, AL)

NEWS / SHORTLY NOTED

The Voice of Scotland made a second appearance on May 21, further feeding the ongoing debate about whether it is actually located in Europe or North America. Signal characteristics here on the East Coast reflect Trans-Atlantic propagation, so I am in accordance with John Arthur. However, there haven't been any other logs of this broadcast as of press time that could also substantiate this observation.

Radio Caroline Dublin, not to be confused w/ the off-shore R Caroline, has set up a worldwide web page for DXers to try! Station news, weekly Dublin pirate radio listings, R Caroline Dublin bcst skeds, and links to other pirate radio "sites" are among the services offered. The address is as follows: <http://www.internet-eirann/Dojo/caroline.htm> (R Caroline Dublin, Internet)

A number of pirates celebrated **Anniversaries** this past Spring: Tangerine R & Secret Mountain Lab (11 years); R Mauser Worldwide (9 years); R Garbanzo (7 years); WBNY, WLIS, Tube R, & CSIC (5 years); Spam R & 6YVOS (1 year). This month welcomed KTVI & Up Against the Wall R (1 year), RFM (6 years), WBRI (10 years) & the Voice of Tomorrow (12 years). Since VoTomorrow has been inactive for a number of years, their motto "Tomorrow is for Today" has an ironic ring to it now.

Niel Wolfish raises an excellent point about processor **effects**. Citing the May 14 WREC broadcast, he writes "I'm sorry: (the reverb) may sound great if you are listening to a 'studio' tape of a program, but they make copy difficult when you're listening to sideband!" Compare the results of the Apr 29 WREC transmission, which was done with high powered / superbly modulated AM. No less than ten DXers heard it perfectly, including one zooming down the road. Makes you rethink the ridiculous USB v. LSB debate, eh? Rather, toss out SSB or give up the reverb, hil

PROPAGATION

| Date | Flux | A | K | Date | Flux | A | K | Date | Flux | A | K |
|--------|------|----|---|--------|------|----|---|--------|------|----|---|
| Apr 22 | 84 | 06 | 2 | Apr 23 | 77 | 16 | 3 | Apr 29 | 68 | 05 | 1 |
| Apr 30 | 67 | 01 | 0 | May 06 | 76 | 21 | 2 | May 07 | 78 | 13 | 2 |
| May 13 | 81 | 11 | 2 | May 14 | 80 | 10 | 1 | May 20 | 81 | 10 | 2 |
| May 21 | 75 | 03 | 1 | | | | | | | | |

You can tell Summer's here just from listening to all that noise on the radio! Conditions through the end of April to mid-May were considerably poor with unbelievable static levels, partly caused by the storms in the nation's heartland, and mostly by the low solar flux. That didn't seem to deter activity, especially over the Apr 29 weekend, which saw 4 stations back to back on 6955. The flux crept just above 80 over the May 13 and May 20 weekends, giving us one last taste of good listening. Propagation will be disturbed during the beginning of June, but should have settled down by the time you've received this. The 55 day assessment of the July 4 weekend looks good, so plan to have a rig next to your grill... All the best and 73's from Washington!

Deadline for the July Dialogs: June 22, 1995.

PLEASE QSL ADDRESSES

Franz Bergman; RRT 2, Box 177; Whitehall, WI 54773
 Jerry Coatsworth; R.R.#3; Merlin, ON N0P 1W0; Canada
 Joe Filipkowski; 28 Millwheel Rd; Warwick, RI 02886
 William Hassig; 102 North Russel St; Mt. Prospect, IL 60056-2443
 Niel Wolfish; 112-2177 Avenue Road; Toronto, ON M5M 4B7; Canada
 Al Spremo; POBox 72-1168; Jackson Heights, NY 11372



Veried Response

your center for QSL information
and comment

John T. Arthur, proprietor

RD #1, Box 15A

Belfast, NY 14711

(716) 365-8870, not collect

with help from the VR Troopers and other Friends. VR is electronically transmitted to A*C*E Hdq on or before the 21st of each month. Please send your input and comments to the above address or leave them in the [V]eried Response section of the ANARC BBS prior to the 15th. Your active participation in the form of input, reports, suggestions, or constructive criticism is solicited and welcomed.

Unless otherwise attributed, opinions expressed in Veried Response are those of this clown and hopefully do not represent the attitudes or opinions of any sane person. Any disagreement or complaint should be directed in triplicate to this columnist for round-filing.

"Ambition: An overmastering desire to be vilified by enemies while living and made ridiculous by friends when dead."

--Ambrose Bierce

What's News:
the media report

Once again, no news is good news. The best news is that winter definitely appears to have gone away for another year. Spring is bustin' out all over and pretty soon we'll be complaining about the heat and humidity again. Don'tcha love it..?

Support your Club; say you read it in The A*C*E

"When a man wants to murder a tiger he calls it sport;
when the tiger wants to murder him he calls it ferocity."

--George Bernard Shaw

off the wall...
the rumor center

Shortly after the Oklahoma City bombing I heard Voice of America on 7375 kHz in English with a typically unbiased diatribe against talk shows on shortwave. I wonder how much longer it will be before they decide to outlaw shortwave radios and send the gendarmes around to take them away..?

Last month I mentioned Denmark on 7480 kHz. I've only heard them there once since, and with much poorer signals. Since then they've apparently moved elsewhere. Another update; they were there again last evening with a good signal. Perhaps it's not used daily..?

On April 22nd I noticed that RFPI was NOT on 15050, but it may have been before they signed on. However, I did notice a signal on 15030 at 1450 UTC: piano IS twice, then YL with announcement, all repeated until 1500 hours when the program signed on. Uncertain of the language, but it might have been Arabic. Any ideas George..?

Ad in the May 3rd Radio World: "I build and maintain radio stations, AM, FM, shortwave, on land or at sea, what can I do for you? A Weiner 207-985-7547." Just don't leave him alone on board..!

Gripe List:

Niel Wolfish adds to the griping with: WJLR (1993), Pan Global Wireless, RCCI (Nov '93), WXZR (1990), Douchebag Welle (1990), Voice of Drano (1990), Outlaw X (1990), KPLU, Ft Worth (1990), WRNR (1990) and KFAT (1990). Niel: PGW, RCCI, WXZR, and

June 1995

KFAT were all real good; try another f/up report. WJLR now has cards but still hasn't sent any out. Your WRNR - maybe WRMR on 1620..? If so, they did send no-data postcards to a handful of folks, but apparently dropped out of sight thereafter. Can't help with the others...

ACE Reprints are now available for the 1982 thru 1986 issues, and the 1987 editions will be at the copy shop being re-mastered as you read this. If you're interested in the history of the Free Radio scene or just The ACE, you can't get a better overview than the old issues. Individual issues (to complete your collection or ?) are US\$2 each, entire years are \$13 including shipping from: ACE Reprints, PO Box 1, Belfast, NY 14711. Any profit from these sales will go to the Club treasury...

Long-time ACE member and DXer Michael Goetsch passed away on May 11th in Cleveland of liver and kidney failure. Mike joined ACE in 1983 and was active in the Free Radio scene for many years. He edited a pirate column for the now-defunct ADXR for a short time. More recently, he was one of the regular voices on Radio Albatross (via R Copan), along with Radio Animal and Captain Sly. R.I.P...

"drifty sideband and weak AM"
meaningful complaints or empty rhetoric?

Let's set the record straight: Not all sideband signals exhibit drift and not all AM signals have great signals with low audio. There seems to be a clique of newcomers that don't understand that and are quick to cry "foul" whenever an honest reception report is sent. A cursory look through the ACE Dialogs would show any interested person that the only sideband signals that are reported as "drifty" are, in fact, those that drift! Amazing, yes? To be sure, some AM signals drift, too, but sideband is an extremely narrow bandwidth and just a little signal shift is far more noticeable than with a typical broad-as-a-barn-door AM signal. Maybe that's why the two words seem to be linked..? And, yes. Some AM signals exhibit low or weak audio - those from broadcasters using the relatively common and inexpensive screen-grid modulated DX60s and T60s. This form of circuit CANNOT achieve 100% modulation level. Ever. However, to lump WREC, CSIC, Clandestine and others using good, old-fashioned high-level plate modulation into this group is absolutely stupid and shows no knowledge of electronics and/or technology.

"In Search of a Modern American Hero"
by a long-time ACE member (name withheld by request)

The dictionary defines a "hero" as someone distinguished for exceptional courage, fortitude and enterprise - idealized for superior qualities or deeds of any kind. The use of "hero" in conjunction with pirate radio in the recent Flipside #1 column (May '95 ACE, pg20) has left a bitter taste in my mouth. The author poses a question which he deems necessary to answer at the same time: "which would you rather classify as a 'hero', someone who comes on once or twice a year for 30 minutes, or stations such as Solid Rock Radio or NAPRS who can be counted on time after time for great signals and programs, and frequently to boot?" My answer: NEITHER. I hate to rain on the author's 'tour de plume', but pirate radio broadcasting frequency has nothing to do with heroism or lack thereof. Let's examine the author's statement in detail: The first part of the statement implies that a station's Operator is less of a 'hero' if the broadcasts appear only once or twice a year; the second part implies that only Ops who "have great signals and programs" and broadcast them frequently can be qualified as heroes. To borrow the statements from paragraph 6 of the column, maybe this question/statement should really read: "Attention please. Would the Operators who do not broadcast frequently enough with good enough signals and programs cease operations immediately. You will never attain hero's status in the author's eyes." It can be argued by some that the Operators who are on every weekend are really defying the FCC more frequently and, by doing so, increase their risk of being caught and fined. Although this is true, it does not grant them instant "hero" status. Anyone who believes that the deed of turning on a transmitter every week to play comedy, music, and occasional political diatribe is heroic ought to find another outlet to curb their obviously inflated ego. Exercising freedom of speech is a basic Right, at least here in the USA, but does not grant you a "hero" status, either. "But", one may argue, "I am standing up to the government to protect what is rightfully mine." If this is the qualification for instant heroism, then it must also be granted, as an example, to a

man who refuses to pay his taxes to the IRS, because he is fighting to keep the government from taking what he has rightfully earned.

By expressing my views, I am no more right or wrong than the author. I am attempting to point out that an entire column dedicated to the grumbling of a dissatisfied few is a total waste of space. Who do we attack next? I know, let's go after the studio pirates versus the transmitter owners. Or, let's argue about live vs pre-recorded programs. And why stop with the printed word? Why not publicly flog and denounce other ACE columnists on the air over some imaginary wrongs they have committed? I hope this juvenile war of wits will soon stop. Before you openly come out and critique others, why not check your own "holier than thou" premise for doing so? It would be refreshing, for a change, to see some constructive material pertaining to the hobby of DXing, radio listening and pirate broadcasting presented within the pages of the ACE. If you have a view, by all means, share it. But don't go harping about it for issues on end. And if you truly must, then do it on your own time.

**> The Swappe Shoppe <*>
buy, sell, trade announcements Free to A*C*E members

Please be concise but complete: if you are looking for an item, accurately describe what you need; if you're selling something, give make, model number, condition and asking price. And be sure to notify me if you find what you're looking for or sell what you are offering so I can keep these ads up-to-date. Thx. NO collect calls, please!

WANTED:

Your pirate radio programs for relay on "legit" Part 15 station. Yes, "Radio Relay Services", although a small Part 15 station, seeks to LEGALLY relay quality, clean-language programs for pirates. This Part 15 station operates at special events on a local level, regularly broadcasting programs of all types to literally hundreds of people! Broadcasts are advertised so the populace will know where to tune for the most unusual mix of comedy, anarchy and theme stations available. This could be an opportunity to start something at a local level for those who know little or nothing of pirate radio as well as entertain veteran SWL types! If you would like to have your program relayed in a legal manner, Contact: G. Hostwriter, via Box 452, Wellsville, NY 14895.

Demo tapes from unsigned bands for program to be broadcast on international SW. Contact: Tim Hall, via Box 452.

Allied Knight-kit SW rcvrs, xmtrs, xcvs and catalogs from 60s and early 70s. Contact: John Vercellino, 6921 Springside Ave, Downers Grove, IL 60516-3114.

Clean recordings of US legal and pirate stations. Contact: Southern Music Radio via Box 452.

Make some room in your shack and convert that unused radio gear to cash at the same time. Receivers, accessories and certain xcvs or xmtrs bought and sold. Contact: jta (716) 365-8870.

Realistic DX160 receiver. Contact: Richard McCarthy, 26842 Ivy Way, Madison, AL 35758, or call (205) 353-4485.

FOR SALE:

Various FT243 crystals, mostly in 43 meters but including 7400 kHz. \$10/ea. Call jta for complete list.

Panaxis FM10S. PLL controlled stereo FM xmtr, 19" rack mountable, 10-15 watts output, great shape, rarely used. Original price \$775; asking \$300, including shipping. Contact: C.J. at (215) 415-2886.

Gonset Communicator III 10m xcvr with three xtals; \$50 plus shipping. Contact: R. Lear, POB 1268, Mt Vernon, KY 40456.

Panaxis FME5000 mono FM xmtr presently tuned to 90.9 but easily set for your frequency, complete with power supply; \$300 and shipping. Contact: Joe, via Box 452.

You wanna get on the air - but can't face a big fine? Consider Part 15 broadcasting; read: "Adventures in Part 15 Broadcasting" by G Hostwriter. Not so much a novel as a primer, Hosty will walk you thru transmitters, antennas, studios and programming considerations. All the hints, kinks and tricks are discussed. An easy read, yet full of vital info. Your copy is US\$10, available from: Bud Stacey, PO Box 907, Satsuma, AL 36572.

Now you can enjoy pirate programs without the usual noise and static! The DVS collection has over 330 programs from more than 100 different stations, and your cost is absurdly low: only US\$2 per program if you supply the cassette (total \$4), or \$6 for two shows if DVS supplies the tape. What's available? Send a #10 SASE for a list to: DVS, PO Box 452, Wellsville, NY 14895.

Video Link DET-101A stabilizer, never used, \$25 (+shipping). MFJ751 single SSB and CW audio filter w/power pak: \$50. Contact: jta at (716) 365-8870.

Mouthterpiece Theater
(formerly: Soapbox)
ACE members speak out:

This month our famous clandestine columnist, George Zeller, takes a turn on the soapbox:

"In the April ACE you suggested that pirates should not use 43 meters because it is allocated to the 'Fixed Station services.' I need to point out that 41 meters is also allocated to Fixed Station services by the ITU. If a pirate in any location, e.g. Birmingham, Alabama, would fire up its transmitter on a 41 meter Fixed Station frequency, perhaps 7425 kHz as cited in some FCC pirate bust press releases in my collection, then as you say the fixed stations will be likely to call up the FCC to report this broadcasting transmission in the Fixed Services band.

"Obviously my tongue is in cheek. I've monitored numerous frequencies on 41 and 43 meters for scores of hours over the years. Fixed station activity is no more common on 6955 kHz than it is on 7415 kHz. In my judgement, pirate operations on 6955 carry exactly the same risk as pirate operations on 7415; no more, no less. However, QRM from other pirates such as WEWN is much less on 6955 than it is on 7415. So, in my opinion, 6955 is a better example of a 'good place to live' for a pirate broadcaster than is 7415, since it increases the odds that a pirate broadcast will be heard by listeners without increasing the risk of a bust at all.

"I disagree with you that a 'single pirate frequency' is undesirable, mainly because it is risky in terms of increasing the odds of a bust. To the contrary, if pirates scatter to many different frequencies, then the audience will contract substantially because people will have trouble finding the stations. The pirate listening audience is not large to start with, ranging from one or two persons to perhaps a few dozen for any particular transmission. If it shrinks substantially, then our niche of the hobby could disappear from lack of monitored activity. In recent years it has been expanding because of greatly increased activity, much of which was facilitated by the use of 'standard frequencies' such as 7415 and 6955. A pirate that wants to be heard, and that wants to contribute to the expansion and health of the pirate scene, will broadcast within a few kilohertz of these standard frequencies.

"Except for Brother Stair's boat and the Cuban clandestine in Puerto Rico, there was virtually no FCC bust activity in 1994, despite the fact that literally hundreds of NAM pirates ran shows on standard frequencies. The January, 1995, 'visits' to alleged Operator's homes were not caused by the standard frequencies used. They were caused by excessive volume, length, and predictability of transmissions from particular locations. I agree that pirates increase their risk when they broadcast too frequently from the same location, particularly when they spread their schedules around in public before the broadcasts take place. But, I repeat, the use of 6955 kHz does NOT increase the odds that a station will be busted at all!" s/George

Thanks for the dissertation, George. I admit that after reading your letter I got out Gilfer's Confidential Frequency List and took a look at the heading for 41 meters - and you're correct. At least as far as the ITU is concerned, 41m is also allocated to Fixed Stations. Obviously, the FCC has not been made aware of this, however; or perhaps they consider over-modulated 100kW and/or 500kW broadcasting stations to fit into that category. I guess one could stretch the definition to make them fit.

There was a proposal to expand the 40m broadcasting allocation up to 7500 kHz at the last WARC conference. I thought it had been, at least, put on hold; apparently the FCC doesn't give a damn. Thus, whatever the ITU classification, 41m IS a broadcasting band as far as NAM is concerned. I think about the only legitimate Fixed Station use of the band these days is the Kenya FAX station on 7465. However, I think you're getting confused by your other writing job. The hobby is not pirate *monitoring* - it's pirate *DXing*. And the difference is phenomenal! When you monitor, you simply punch in one frequency and wait for something to come to you. That's not DXing; DXing is a challenge, you have to expend some effort to achieve any results, even if it's just cranking the big knob on the front of your radio to FIND something. Remember the old days, George? Remember searching high and low for something, ANYTHING to pop on, sometimes for days or even weeks at a time? That's what the hobby is all about - DXing. It's gotten far too easy in the last five years or so; now people bitch if they listen for an hour and don't hear something. And the challenge is gone, as is the rewarding feeling of accomplishment when you're successful. This is just as true at the listening end as it is at the verifying end. Perhaps this is just result of the saturation of television's "instant gratification" concept. "Give us 20 minutes and we'll give you the world" said CNN. Now it's "give me a pirate within 20 minutes or I'll go back to Nintendo." Maybe some of today's listeners (and Operators) *should* go back to Nintendo. jta

What do YOU think? Mouthterpiece Theater is a forum for Your opinion and comment. Kindly organize Your thoughts, be concise, and expect comment directed at Yours. I may edit to fit space available but will try not to alter Your intended meaning.

"Experience should teach us that it is always the unexpected that does occur."
--Eleanor Roosevelt

**> under the door <+

the QSL report for: June 1995

Chris Lobdell managed a full data orange "earthapple" card from Tangerine Radio signed by RR in three months, and a full data paper card and xerox sheet from Voice of Scotland signed by Rab Milne in six months.

Guiseppe Filipkowski bounced off the walls for a full data orange card from Live Wire Radio signed by Bill Lewis in 9 months for a follow-up report of a April 1992 reception, a full data "airborne pirate radio" card (#245) from The Radio Airplane signed by Capn Eddy in about 3 months, a full data blue "tower on globe" card (#209) from NAPRS signed by R T Pistek in one week, a full data white card (#26) and infosheet from XEROX signed by Bart Sambo in 27 days, a full data "Ian visits relatives in New England" sheet (#635) from WLIS signed by CP in one month, and a full data sheet (#4) from Radio Mindwebs signed by Cygnus in one month.

Ed Rausch calmly and methodically opened envelopeg to find a full data "Firesign Theater" sheet from WYDX in nine months, a full data card and personal letter from One Voice Radio signed by Joe in one month, and a full data sheet (#2) from Radio Mindwebs signed by Cygnus for a CW test in two months.

Joe Yadsko nervously shredded envelopes to discover a full data card (#106) from Pirate Radio Boston signed by Charlie Loudenboomer in one month, a full data "95" card (#12) from RFM signed by HV Short in two weeks, a full data sheet (#188) from WREC signed by PJ Sparx in one month, a full data card (#1099) from Radio USA signed by Mr Blue Sky in two months, a full data orange "earthapple" card from Tangerine Radio signed by RR in about 38 weeks, two full data cards (#244 & 258) from The Radio Airplane signed by Capn Eddy in up to three months, a full data card from Radio City in one month, a full data card (#848) from Radio Marabu in four months, a full data card (#283) from Radio Mirage signed by Ian Page in two months, a full data card from Tadio Titanic Intl signed by Tim Cooper in ten weeks, and a full data card from Sunshine Radio Intl in one month.

Jesse Rose almost slipped on a banana peel while drooling over a full data "air pirates" card (#6) from WTWP signed by Sal Manilla in four weeks, a full data "party on dudes" card (#27) from Heavy Dude Radio with stickers and infosheet, two full data cards (#254 & 263) from The Radio Airplane signed by Capn Eddy in up to 12

weeks, and a full data "black & white" sheet (#3) from Radio Mindwebs signed by Cygnus in one month.

Rob Ross (almost typed Rob Roy! jta) must have slowed down; he only reports a full data brown card and personal letter from Southern Music Radio (via CSIC) signed by David Miller in 14 months, and a full data orange "earthapple" card from Tangerine Radio signed by RR in three months.

Niel Wolfish litigated a full data folder (#25) from The Fox in 23 months, a full data "Yolanda swimsuit issue" sheet from He Man in three weeks, a full data orange card (#860) from Radio Marabu in two months, a full data orange "earthapple" card from Tangerine Radio signed by RR in three months, a full data orange sheet from WYDX in 9.5 months, and a full data card with photo of Sam Barto from XEROX signed by Bam Sarto in four weeks.

Yolanda Lewis went ballistic upon receiving a full data "Ophra" sheet from Radio Garbanzo signed by Fearless Fred in about four weeks.

Franz Bergman burned his lips on a soldering iron when handed a full data sheet (#54) from Radio Halloween scribbled on by Tommy Pickles, a full data "Beavis & Butthead" card (#107) from Pirate Radio Boston signed by CQ Loudenboomer in about a month, 3 cards (#225, 226 & 264) from Radio Airplane, two cards (#175 & 176) from Radio Doomsday, a full data blue card (#190) and infosheet from NAPRS, a "real nice" full data card (#2) from Way Gone Radio signed by Doctor Chicago in about two months, a full data pink "WLIS listener reading paper" sheet (#558) from WLIS signed by CP in about 45 days with South Shore Line timetable (maybe he thinks he's WISL?), a full data sheet (#6) from Bullfrog Radio signed by Bullfrog, and a full data card w/stickers and infosheet from KIWI signed by Graham Barclay in 32 days.

Ye Olde Columniste could have been knocked over with a feather upon receiving a full data card from Radio Airplane (via WSWL) signed by Cap'n Eddy in about one month.

Until next, 73 and great DX...

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***                                     ***
***      an A*C*E Special Feature      ***
***                                     ***
***              THE DIRECTORY          ***
***              edition 24             ***
***              by John T. Arthur      ***
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***                                     ***
*****
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These are the known mailing addresses of active and planned North American Free Radio stations, revised to 02 May 1995. MW and FM frequencies given where known.

KEY:

* = also on shortwave
? = existence questionable
BC = Broadcast/Broadcasting
FR = Free Radio
R = Radio
RF = Radio Free
Int'l = International
Svc = Service
Vo = Voice of
Vot = Voice of the
WW = Worldwide

770 Sycamore Ave #J193, Vista, CA 92083:
Anarchy One, Vot Dead

Box 109, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214:

Carrefour Radio, CKLW, CSIC, Cumberland Stationwagon, CXDX, Defiance!90, Down East Radio, East Coast Beer Drinker, He Man R, Howdy Doody R, KMCR, KULP, Midnite R, Mystic Vot Western Praries, Omega R, One Voice R, R Anarchy, R Blandx, R Comedy Club Int'l, R Drift, R Flattus, R Flatulence, R Ganymede, R Politzania, R Scottish Montreal, Samurai R, Society of Industrialized Music, The Edge, The Fox, Tube R, Vo Anarchy, Vo Broadcast Freedom, Vo Epileptic Catfish, Vo Monotony, Vo Normandy, Vot Purple Pumpkin, Vo Stench, WAO, WCTU, WFU2, WHIP, WKZP, WLIS, WNOT, WPBS, WREC, WYDX, Wire Line R

Box 146, Stoneham, MA 02180:

K2000, Pirate R Boston, Quantum State Labs, R Esoterica, RF Salvation

Box 293, Merlin, ONT N0P 1W0:

Altered States R, Andromeda Independent R, CRTC, Great Southland, Happy Hanukkah, Laser Hot Hits, North Jersey Coast R, One Voice R, R Beaver, R Cambodia from Phnom Phen, R Cando, R Eleven, R Farside, R Fluffernut, R Gemini, R Gloria, R Gumby Intl, R London, R Merlin Int'l, R Marabu, R Pus, R Scottish Montreal, R Toronto, Rockit 48, The Fox, Wire Line R, WCYC, WRBA, WSRN

Box 314, Clackamas, OR 97015:

Vo Tomorrow-1616* [slow, but still works]

Box 402, Glen Oaks, NY 11004:

WRMR-1620?

Box 452, Wellsville, NY 14895:

Alternate Elvis, APRN, Big Brother R, Black Rider R, Black Swan R-100.9, Bullfrog R, Canadian Bootlegger, Car Show, CFBN, CNBS, CRSN, East Coast Mx R, Full Metal Jacket, Ground Level Ntwk, High Times R, Hit Parade R, Intensive Care, Jolly Roger Intl, KDED, KFAT, KLVb, KNBS, KQRP, KROK, KXVN-830//92.7, Liberty!, Microdot R, NAPRS, Orbital Mind Control Satellite, Pan Global Wireless, Primitive R, Project 301, R Airplane, RF America, R Azteca, RF Euphoria R EXP, R Garbanzo, R Halloween, R Invisible, R Ireland Intl, RFM, R Marabu, R Mindwebs, R Navidad Int, R Okeechobee, R One, R Poncho Villa, R USA, SML Ltd, Solid Rock Radio, The Fox, The Oasis, Up Against The Wall R, Virtual BC System, Vo Bob, Vo Bono, Vo Intoxication, Vot KY Fried Rodents, Vo Laryngitis, Vot Rainbow, Vot Runaway Maharishi, Warthog R, WAZU, WBZA, WCR-89.3, WDRR, WGBR-600//91.5, WGOP, WHDA, WHO, Wire Line R, Witch City R, WKIK, WMAD, WMIR, WORK, WQSL, WRCA, WREC, WRTR, WRV, WSDO, WSKY?, WVOL, WYMN, WYYZ-550//91.7, Xmas Day R

Box 543, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732:

WWEO?

Box 605, Huntsville, AL 35804:

4th of July R, Action R, Alliance for FR, Grand Ol' Opry R, KICK, RF Jesus, R Ogalalla, RF Salvation, SW3, Vo F America, Vo Gilligan, WEED, WISL, WRAR

Box 923, Saratoga, CA 95071:

Vot Smooth

Box 2024, Faribault, MN 55021:

Amiga Computer Generated R, Spam Radio, KTVI

Box 3511, La Mesa, CA 91944:

KUNT

Box 3913, Schenectady, NY 12303:

Vox America

Box 17534, Atlanta, GA 30316:

RBCN, Vo Shakerag

Box 23792, Phoenix, AZ 85063:

Fantasy BC Stn, FNTC-101.3 [may be inactive]

Box 25302, Pittsburgh, PA 15242:

Deadly Nightshade, KCUS, Kranker R, R WOLF Int'l, Radio X, Rastafarian R, Vo Stench

Box 28413, Providence, RI 02908:
Friday R, Jurassic Radio, Kansas Midland Railroad, Outlaw R, R Ano Nuevo, R Fusion
R, R Isn't R, Up Against the Wall R, Vo Scotland, Vot Unknown MonkeysPanker

Box 40554, Washington, DC 20016:
Black Box R, Pirate R New England-1616*, R Angeline, R Espirito, R Lymph Node Int'l,
R Ohm, The Crooked Man, WBNY, WBST-666*, WWCR, WWW

Box 55553, Trenton, NJ 08638:
Radio Mauser WW?

In contacting a free radio station:

Whenever an address is announced, use it. If no address is announced use the address listed here. In a pinch, write to one of the primary maildrops but don't hold your breath.

Do not expect a 'drop to pay for your QSL; enclose adequate postage (three mint first class stamps) for forwarding and reply. Do not send a SASE unless specifically requested by the station. Outside the USA enclose some IRCs; if no IRCs are available, send a dollar or two.

Announcing a maildrop is not a guarantee of response; don't blame the 'drop if you never hear from the station. 'droperators are not QSL Managers, they only handle mail. Broadcasters should keep their promises.

Avoid asking about location; it's a dumb question that Operators only answer to mislead correspondents. Most, however, will answer questions about power or equipment, and appreciate your technical observations, bandscans and cassette recordings.

If you operate and desire audience contact, use a maildrop for some security. The open 'drops are:

| |
|--------------------------------------|
| Box 109, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214 |
| Box 293, Merlin, ON N0P 1W0 |
| Box 452, Wellsville, NY 14895 |
| Box 605, Huntsville, AL 35804 |
| Box 25302, Pittsburgh, PA 15242 |
| Box 28413, Providence, RI 02908 |
| Box 40554, Washington, DC 20016 |

Always write for details before using any address.

Operators and listeners are requested to confirm activity and address information for periodic updates of The Directory. Write to: RD# 1 Box 15A, Belfast, NY 14711.

Thanks to Kirk G. Baxter, Jerry Coatsworth, J.D. Stephens, Andrew R. Yoder and George C. Zeller for assistance compiling this list.

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CLANDESTINE PROFILE

George Zeller

3492 West 123rd St.
Cleveland, OH 44111
(216) 941-3366

Your loggings, information, and speculations about clandestine radio stations are always very welcome for this column. You can send them direct to 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or, you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or else (216) 696-9077 between 1200-2045 UTC weekdays. Information for the column can be left on the ACE BBS at (913) 345-1978. A slower method via the internet is to use ew088@cleveland.freenet.edu to send material.

FAR RIGHT WING SEMI-CLANDESTINES GET NATIONAL MEDIA ATTENTION

Last month's column was written just before a considerable amount of news broke on the shortwave right wing semi-clandestine front. In the wake of the bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City, virtually every national news media organization suddenly discovered the "Patriot" programs that broadcast regularly on USA shortwave broadcasters, particularly WWCR. This led to intensive coverage in prominent places. Both the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* ran front page stories on consecutive days about the WWCR shows. The *Times* piece even included WWCR's 5065 kHz frequency. All of the press attention used the angle that various militia groups and far right wing talk show hosts were using shortwave radio broadcasts to integrate a loose-knit information network among themselves.

The most prominent individual placed under the microscope was Mark Koernke, a maintenance man at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. As the FBI quickly investigated the Oklahoma City bombing, some press reports linked Koernke to the incident. Koernke was quickly linked to a strange fax message received by Rep. Steve Stockman (R-Texas), a congressman sympathetic to various right wing groups. The fax, which arrived shortly after the bombing incident, read, "First update. Bldg 7 to 10 floors only. Military people on scene - BATF/FBI. Bomb threat received last week. Perpetrator unknown at this time. Oklahoma."

The fax thrust Koernke into the national spotlight very suddenly. He made an appearance on PBS' "McNeil Lehrer Report." ABC News reported that Koernke was being sought for questioning by the FBI, although it quickly became clear that he was not a suspect in the actual bombing. Nevertheless, the phenomenon of the right wing shortwave programs zoomed overnight from obscurity to national prominence. Even President Bill Clinton made more than one speech in which he attacked the content of extreme right wing talk show programs in the wake of the Oklahoma bombing. People like Rush Limbaugh and G. Gordon Liddy quickly took offense, but Limbaugh and Liddy provide tame fare when compared to the shortwave programs.

MANY RIGHT WING PROGRAMS CANCELLED ON USA SHORTWAVE STATIONS

On April 27 I listened to Mark Koernke's "The Intelligence Report" program, carried on WWCR at 0000 UTC on 5065 kHz. As we have mentioned previously in this column, WWCR qualifies as a pirate station on this frequency. International regulations prohibit broadcasting on the 60 meter tropical band by North American transmitters. (WWCR maintains that the top end of the 60 meter band is defined at 5060 kHz, so it technically is not in violation of the regulations. But, if so, 5065 kHz is not in any international broadcasting band at all. The frequency is allocated to fixed service utility transmissions. I am sure that sooner or later, the FCC will send out its crack direction finding vans toward Nashville, which is the source of WWCR's pirate transmitter). Koernke's program was startlingly blunt.

But, when I tuned in to hear the show on April 28, it had been replaced by an expanded 2 hour show from Viking International Trading, a Scottsdale, Arizona firm that sells old coins as investments. Viking apparently had a relationship with various "Patriot" programs that involved sponsorship, sort of like the Jeff White practice of buying air time on licensed USA shortwave stations. A press release from WWCR said that they had evaluated their responsibility as a broadcaster, and that

they felt that Koernke should be removed from their schedule. Viking announcers blamed FCC pressure for the decision to axe Koernke's show, and they urged listeners to send faxes to WWCR in protest of this stifling of freedom of speech. The WWCR press release made it clear that an FCC investigation had something to do with the move. *Broadcasting and Cable* reported that the FCC was using its power to enforce a routinely violated rule that limits USA shortwave broadcasting to international audiences. Obviously Koernke was primarily beaming his message to a domestic target listenership.

Both Alan Masyga and Anita McCormack wrote in to report that several additional right wing semi-clandestine programs have lost their spot in the programming lineup of USA shortwave stations within the last month. For instance, Alan furnished a copy of the shortwave schedule of the American Dissident Voices neo-fascist program, which is 1630 UTC Saturdays on WRNO's 15420 kHz, 0100 UTC Sundays on WRNO's 7355 kHz, and via WINB at 0200 UTC Saturdays on 11950 kHz, 2130 UTC Saturdays on 11915 kHz, 0300 UTC Sundays on 11950 kHz, and 1930 UTC Sundays on 12160 kHz. The show is also relayed via 11 medium wave and FM stations in local areas of the USA. But, Alan reports that when he tuned in to hear the show after May 14, he found that WRNO was not airing the program. Alan says that Ernest Zündel's genuinely fascist program has also been missing from the WRNO lineup. Masyga speculates that "pro-bombing" programs on May 8 seem to have led to the demise of these shows. Alan has also been searching in vain for the Dissident Voices program via WINB.

In a related item, Alan says that the Viking International show on WWCR at 0000 UTC has still been talking about USA unorganized militias on some shows. In a May program they gave out addresses for several militias, including one in Noxon, Montana. If you'd like to call them, their number is (406) 847-2735. Alan also points out that a seemingly related pirate/clandestine, Free Radio One, was active six years ago. But, it's been a long time since we heard any activity from this one.

SHORT COMMENTARY

The hubbub about right wing shortwave semi-clandestines was the biggest thing to hit shortwave radio since the Gulf War. My personal politics are so far removed from the people on these shows that I have a hard time finding sympathy for their plight. The program content on Dissident Voices, Zündel's show, Koernke's former show, and others like them is literally startling. It all got a close look from mainstream media in the wake of the Oklahoma City bombing. I personally feel that these guys are a bunch of nuts. In fact, I feel that they are dangerous nuts, by and large. However, there are a couple of angles that have not received coverage. Many of the talk show hosts and their callers complained that their freedom of speech was being curtailed. This is an issue that is dear to the hearts of ACE members. I think that the whole situation identifies a weakness in the new technology of clandestine programs, who often buy time on licensed broadcasters. As Koernke found, and as Shoko Asahara of Aum Shinrikyo found when the Russians cancelled his transmitter relays (see item below), the owner of the transmitter can always pull the plug. This could cause some organizations to consider pure clandestine broadcasts, where they would be in control of the transmitter. We shall see.

RADIO FREE BOUGAINVILLE USING COCONUT OIL TO FUEL GENERATOR

ACE member Ullis Fleming of Maryland sends in an interesting item via Bruce Girard of Simon Fraser University from *The IFEX Communique*, a weekly publication of the International Freedom of Expression eXchange of the Committee to Protect Journalists, 490 Adelaide Street West, Suite 205, Toronto, Ontario M5V 1T2. IFEX cited an item about Radio Free Bougainville that ran in the May issue of *La Lettre*, the monthly bulletin of Reporters Sans Frontières. RSF says that Papua New Guinea "rebels fighting for independence must often resort to coconut oil to run the generator that powers their pirate radio station, Radio Free Bougainville." Apparently, the oil of 40 coconuts will run a transmitter generator for one hour. Radio Free Bougainville says that the Papua New Guinea army has executed persons harvesting coconuts, alleging that they would be using the oil for this purpose. RSF also says that internal Bougainville and Papua New Guinea media continue to be censored, and that foreign journalists are not admitted to the area unless they are considered "acceptable." An item in BBCMS via Monitoring Times said that an Australian logging of Radio Free Bougainville was generated on March 21 at 1020-1100* UTC on 3880 kHz. Has anybody been hearing this station lately? A black clandestine jammer called Radio United Bougainville sometimes transmits on the frequency, so you should be careful about identifications.

SHOKO ASAHARA ARRESTED

Japanese police arrested Aum Shinrikyo cult leader Shoko Asahara in Kamikuishiki, Japan on May 16. Numerous press accounts said that police raided numerous cult compounds and facilities at the time when guru Asahara was arrested. Police said that Asahara would be charged in connection with the Marcy 20 Tokyo subway nerve gas attack that killed a dozen people and injured several thousands. Apparently the information in last month's issue of *The ACE* is correct; all Aum Shinrikyo semi-clandestine shortwave broadcasts left the air in March when their Russian relay transmitters terminated transmitter use agreements. Since then, I have seen no loggings of this formerly common program.

CHIAPAS LIBRE

Issue 44 of Glenn Hauser's *DX Listening Digest*, written with a closing date of April 25, had an item on the front cover about La Voz de Chiapas Libre. Glenn noted that Radio Huayacocotla, which uses 2390 kHz from Veracruz, Mexico, was recently shut down by Mexican authorities for infringement of technical standards. The station broadcasts in local languages, and speculation has it that the technical standards of this station were no worse than many other Mexican broadcasters, so the closedown probably was political. Glenn attributed this news to a USENET BBS posting via Pete Costello, via Claudia Guajardo-Yeo of Ontario, via Martha Von Ellenreider of USTA, from Alfredo Zepeda of Radio Huayacocotla. Whew!

Glenn related this item to a letter to Robert Steepy of New Jersey from Jay Murley of San Diego and La Voz de Chiapas Libre. As he claimed in prior letters to me, Murley told Steepy that the station was active in the 41 meter pirate band between 7400 and 7500 kHz. He also said that four QSL's had been sent out for accurate reception reports. But, I have never seen any information from Murley or anybody else that provided logging information for an actual broadcast from Chiapas Libre, including the actual date, time, and frequency of the broadcast. This is starting to get very suspicious. Certainly a station like Chiapas Libre may operate irregularly, but if it actually is going on the air, then we should see actual loggings of it from somebody. Murley claims to have heard it himself while travelling in southern Mexico, but he failed to provide precise date, time, and frequency information.

ACE editor Harry Helms has been looking around his hometown of San Diego to see if he can find any evidence of Murley. Jay is not listed in the telephone book. Harry thought that he might materialize as a vendor or exhibitor at the San Diego computer show, but this did not happen. It turns out that the guy who drove his tank (sic) around the streets of San Diego was neither Jay Murley nor Harry Helms.

This whole story is starting to look more and more like the mythical NDXE all the time. But, the political situation is still very unstable in southern Mexico, so the potential for a station like Chiapas Libre is still there. If you're tuning around the pirate bands anyway, it still may pay to look out for this rare (or possibly nonexistent) clandestine.

PROPAGATION

I have received positive comments from many DXers about the attention that I gave in the April Clandestine Profile to the issue of current propagation conditions in the 41 and 43 meter bands. This material was featured in the talk that I gave on pirate radio to the March Winter SWL Festival in Kulpville, Pennsylvania. A central conclusion was that during winter months when the solar flux is low, the Maximum Usable Frequency between Cleveland and most places east of the Mississippi dives well below 6.8 MHz after 0000 UTC. Thus, propagation on the traditional pirate bands was often impossible during the evenings last winter. We will be looking at a similar situation during the winter DX season of 1995-96, since the solar flux should still be low while we are at the low end of the sunspot cycle.

I heard from ACE member Barry Williams of Alabama, who wondered if the glum propagation news in the Clandestine Profile might be scaring away some pirate stations, thus lowering activity levels. Operators should be advised that this situation should not be present during the summer of 1995. My DX Edge 2 propagation predictor says that the Maximum Usable Frequency between Cleveland and nearly all eastern locations will remain above 6.9 MHz between 1400-0400 UTC, even on days when the sunspot number approaches zero. This is good news.

helps to tune thru the bands about every 15 minutes or so. That way you'll catch more stations signing on/fading in at odd times.

Make a few friends! Fellow DXers help Fellow DXers! I owe many loggings of stations that I would have missed, due someone else catching them first. Also remember to re-pay the favors as well! When tuning thru the bands, turn your BFO ON or use the SSB position, not only does this increase the sensitivity of your receiver, but it makes the carriers of the AM stations stick out like a sore thumb. Another technique I use when I can't really spend a lot of time tuning, is to find a popular frequency and just "Park" your receiver there, open up the filters on your receiver as wide as they go and turn up the volume a bit. That way, you can do other things and still DX a little bit. I hope this stuff helps

Good Luck and Good Fishin'!

continued from page 21

them used SSB. I wonder how many I would have failed to hear if they were pushing most of their output power into an AM carrier? A majority also were those vile 43 meter upstarts who have the audacity to follow each other in order to build an audience. I again have to wonder how many I would have failed to hear if they had exhibited the "good taste, class or intelligence" to pick some unique frequency? Finally, I noted that a significant number came from "stupid" events like Insanity and SWLiberation. Thanks to those operators for all of their "time and effort".

Another operator checks in with a question: "I don't understand how using popular frequencies is a 'Commercial Broadcasting Concept'? Perhaps you would care to enlighten the less-informed? Where was I when the vote was taken to decide this didn't have a place in Pirate Radio?" I wish I had the answers.

One topic that I had hoped to be able to address in this column is the growing use of computers. For those of you with Internet access, you have no doubt already discovered the rec.radio.shortwave and alt.radio.pirate newsgroups. It is amazing to watch the number of people who will post to these groups without a care in the world regarding security. Typical are the posts in alt.radio.pirate which tell how the author is setting up a new free radio station. Of course, there at the top of the post are the name and Internet address. Papers from a recent FCC visit leave no doubt that the FCC has access to and uses this information.

One way to at least provide a bit of security is to use one of the anon servers. They act just like a maildrop. Your name and address is removed from the message and a code is put in their place. When someone responds, the mail is sent to the anon server which then forwards the message to you. Nothing is completely secure but using an anon server is a real good idea if you email information that could come back to haunt you if the wrong people read it. Send email to help@anon.penet.fi for instructions on how to use the anon servers. At least one station supplies an anon Internet address. Email for Radio Doomsday at an260316@anon.penet.fi is sent and returned anonymously. No stamps and more private than a maildrop. Nemesis does not have the best record but it may be worth a try now that he has been resurrected.

Have a question or concern raised by information in the ACE? That is what Flipside is for. See you next month.

*****THIS COUPON GOOD FOR \$2 OFF VOX AMERICA QSL REQUESTS*****
*****ONE COUPON PER LISTENER, PLEASE*****
*****COUPON MAY NOT BE DOUBLED, NO EXPIRY DATE*****

The Flipside

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Welcome again to another issue of the ACE. We all receive benefits from our subscriptions but should remember that there is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes in order to get each issue into our hands every month. The ACE does not generate a significant profit. During the recent Kulpville fest, John Arthur contributed a large amount of time in order to man the ACE booth and among other things, sell raffle tickets which generated portion of the funds allowing the ACE to continue. If you get the chance, give him a thank you for all of his efforts.

Black Rider Radio wrote and asked for a way to publicize the play list from their shows. I will try to eventually include all of them.

BLACK RIDER RADIO #1

LUCKY DAY OVERTURE Tom Waits: The Black Rider (Island, 1993)
CANDY CORN Captain Beefheart and the Magic Band: Mirror Man (One Way, 1973)
HEART OF WISDOM Thubsten Gelek: Tibetan Music From Ladakh and Zanskar
(Lyricord, 1983)
BREATHING Art for Less: Confounding Ourselves (self-release 1989)
HORN TIRO Art for Less: Confounding Ourselves (self-release 1989)
THE HAIRY EYEBALL Henry Kaiser: Marrying for Money (SST 1988)
LUCKY DAY Tom Waits: The Black Rider (Island, 1993)

BLACK RIDER RADIO #2

THE BLACK RIDER Tom Waits: The Black Rider (Island, 1993)
NOVEMBER Tom Waits: The Black Rider (Island, 1993)
LA GRANGE Henry Kaiser et al.: Crazy Backward Alphabet (SST 1987)
THE THOUSAND AND TENTH DAY OF THE HUMAN TOTEM POLE Captain Beefheart and
the Magic Band: Ice Cream for Crow (Virgin, 1982)
PENNY LANE The Beatles: Magical Mystery Tour (Apple, 1967)
THANKSGIVING PRAYER William S. Burroughs: Dead City Radio (Island, 1990)
LUCKY DAY Tom Waits: The Black Rider (Island, 1993)

The May issue has again generated questions. Reports direct from the horse's mouth indicate that although propagation at certain locations may have supported a trans-atlantic broadcast and even though the QSL's received are European styled, The Voice of Scotland was undoubtedly of North American origin. Things are sometimes only obvious when your mind is already made up.

If the comments presented from a long-time ACE member are correct representations of her words, it would be interesting to find out how a group of operators who represent a significant percentage of all recent loggings and who just happen to be on 43 meters are going to "ruin it for those who come along later"? Just how in the world could any operator ruin the chance for any future operator to broadcast?

I have an answer to the question regarding "multi-data" sheets. The sheet I received from CUMM listed all of the broadcasts from that station. It does not say anything about being "multi-data" but it certainly is a catchy and accurate description.

On a personal note, I received a call from an operator and during the conversation he asked how many verified stations I had collected in my less than two years as an ACE member. I could not answer him. QSLs are not the primary reason I listen to radio and frankly, I had not bothered to keep score. Some have suggested that QSLs are the only reason people listen. It is evident that for many, QSLs are an important facet of the hobby. I could not help but chuckle however at recent statistics presented. I went back and counted and discovered that in less than two years, I had managed to be "bubbling just below" the 100 mark. What is ironic about the situation was a review of the stations represented. A majority of

IF YOU FLIP ON THE TRANSMITTER, WILL ANYONE HEAR YOU?
(A quick check of current propagation conditions) by Dick Pistek.

So you're a pirate operator and you've just finished taping your best show yet. You want to get it on the air, but don't want to waste time if no one can hear you due to adverse propagation conditions. Well, over the past two plus years, I've developed a pretty reliable system of indicators to determine current propagation conditions.

Because we're just about at the bottom of the current sunspot cycle, the MUFs (maximum usable frequencies) are just about as low as they're gonna go. It'll take about two years before we see some difference, so I'm afraid we're stuck with what we've got for now. The MUF is defined as the highest frequency that will propagate between two points at that particular time. Transmit on any frequency higher than the MUF, it will just pass through the ionosphere. See George Zeller's April ACE article on propagation for more information. However, the further a location is away from the transmitting location, the higher the MUF is. Say you're broadcasting on 6955 at 0030 UTC on March 1st. The MUF between your rig and Cleveland is 6300 kHz. George Zeller won't hear you, but the MUF between you and Kansas City is up around 9 MHz, so Rob Keeney's got you with an S9 signal! That's due to the angle of the bounce off the ionosphere. The closer the location, the higher the bounce angle, the higher the bounce angle, the more ionization is required to bend back or refract that signal back to earth.

Because most pirate operators operate just above or below the 41 meter band. This article will deal with this band. During this period in the sunspot cycle, the 41/43 meter bands will open for short skip between 1400-2300 UTC in the summer and 1500-2100 UTC in the winter. There have been some exceptions. One notable one was on January 1st of this year, during the "Pirate Radio Insanity" broadcasts. More about that later. After sunset, the MUFs drop like a rock, so short skip is a rarity after the sun sets.

Here is how the NAPRS determines current conditions. I have three shortwave stations that are low powered, and are relatively close to my QTH. They are CHU-7335, CFCX-6005 and CFRX-6070. First, I check CHU. If that's coming in strong, I at least know that I'll be heard within 300 miles of my QTH. If CFCX in Montreal is strong and clear on 6005, I feel 70% certain that listeners within 200 miles or so will be able to hear me. Of course, the MUF between my transmitter and Montreal could be hovering between 6005 and 6955. A fellow pirate lives about 100 miles away from me. To clinch it, I'll put a test signal on the air. If he can hear me, I know short skip is good.

Sometimes, both CFCX-Montreal and CHU are both so so, but Toronto's CFRX is still putting in a good signal. This means that my skip zone is probably 300 miles or so, but beyond that, reception should be possible. When CFRX is gone for the night, it's long skip only. Reception will be possible West of the Mississippi or in the deep South. Usually, once the MUFs fall for the night that's it. It's wait until tomorrow. As I mentioned earlier, January 1st, 1995 was unusual in that respect. Things started out as normal, and by 2300, my skip zone was probably 400 miles or so. Around 0100 or so, I picked up a pirate signal on 7415. This particular pirate lives only about 60 miles or so from me. Too far for a ground wave signal, so I thought he must be being relayed by a station farther away. I called him on the phone to find out it was indeed coming from his QTH! For some reason or other, the MUF shot up after 2300 to allow this reception. I called my pirate friend who lives about 100 miles away. He put his transmitter on and had a S9 plus 20 db signal! Under normal conditions, I'd have heard nothing. These great short skip conditions continued until after 0500 UTC. Conditions returned to normal the next evening. I did notice a similar situation on January 15th. That was a week night, so no transmissions took place.

So, if you're an operator within 300 miles of the stations mentioned above, the same indications should work for you. If not, stations such as WEWN and WWCN may work, but since they are at such high power, even when the MUF is below their frequencies, they may still be audible. I would suggest then, comparing relative signal strengths of these stations. When they are pinning the S meter at your location, short skip is good, but when they are only S-9 it is not. Experiment to find out. After a few tries, you should get a good idea.

Find a safe friend or pirate operator within a 100 miles or so from your location, and run a test. If he can hear you, you know the MUF is high enough. Also, listen to some 40 meter hams in AM, in the 7260-7290 range. By their call prefixes, you should be able to tell how far away they are. If the locals are booming, you know propagation is good. If the ops are weaker and more distant, you'll be skipping over your nearby audience.

Anyway, I hope the above information presents a non-technical way to evaluate current propagation conditions. If you have any questions, feel free to write me at Box 452, Wellsville, NY 14895.

MICRO-CASTING

brought to you by:

BUD STACEY

P.O. Box 907

SATSUMA, AL 36572

Contributions towards the goal of increasing & spreading knowledge about Part 15 microbroadcasting are greatly appreciated; this is YOUR column! Please send all loggings, QSLs, station info, broadcast schedules, tapes and what-have-you to the address above, to arrive by the 15th of each month.

NEW STUFF! Thanks goes to John T. Arthur for the following info! I had heard of something new coming along in the area of synthesized Part 15 transmitters from another hobbyist, but John sent me copies of catalog pages from Ramsey Electronics (1-800-446-2295) and RF Consulting (131 NW 4th St. #132, Corvallis, OR 97330. 1-503-740-8132) on two new models.

The Ramsey FM-25 is basically the same as the FM-10A, with the same audio & RF circuitry, but has an LM317 voltage regulator in lieu of the three diode voltage circuit. Two chips and DIP switches have been added for frequency programming so there's NO coil tweaking! Price for the FM-25 is \$129.95

The TX20FM from RF Consulting sounds like the same thing, or very, very similar! The one difference mentioned is the output power is adjustable from 7 to 200 milliwatts - 100mw over that allowed by the FCC, but should be OK for overseas stations! The TX20FM sells for \$79.95 (ground shipping included) - the pro case kit sells for \$49.94. Note: If the TX20FM and FM-25 are the same, the FM-25 case should fit, since Ramsey's cases are typically \$12-\$15. If anyone finds this to be true, please let us know!

OVERSEAS NEWS: In speaking with a friend from Finland, there seems to be a surge of interest in "free radio" in that country. In the past, there have been a few stations located in Finland, but due to tough rules & regs, not many were in operation. Now that has changed - my friend tells me "something" may happen! Could it be due to the fact that a new socialist government has been voted in and the people now want a voice? More at a later date...

In response to March's column, Nick Grace was gracious enough to send in a list of medFer beacons from an original listing in the Jan. '95 issue of *The Low Down*. Most of these beacons operate in the 1600-1700 kHz range. They use CW transmissions, with one to four-character identifiers such as: "R"-1640.3 kHz-San Jose CA, "GDY"-1662.5 kHz-Elliston VA, or OKVL-1638.75 kHz-North Branch MN. Some of the operators use lengthy beverage antennas and have been heard coast to coast. If I'm not mistaken, these beacons are allowed up to one watt INPUT power, but most probably operate with mere milliwatts. In the hobby of ham radio and "experimental" radio, there is a certain kick gotten by communicating with extremely low power (aka QRP). String out that long wire, kick in that audio filter and tune slowly through the 1600-1700 kHz band - you could be pleasantly surprised! For those who wish it, I have a list of these beacons and hope to have a copy of the addresses too. If you need copies, please send a LSASE to my address above.

Until next time amigos, amigass....Bud

ASSOCIATION OF CLANDESTINE RADIO ENTHUSIASTS
P. O. Box 11201, Shawnee Mission, KS 66207-0201

The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

All subscriptions, renewals, and queries regarding subscriptions should be sent to the above club address. Contributions for each editor should be sent to their own given addresses.

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